

REMARKS

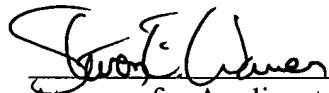
Applicants requests favorable consideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks

Claims 14-17 and 19-23 are presented for consideration. Claims 14 and 20 are independent. Claims 20-23 have been added to recite additional features of the subject invention. Support for these claims can be found in the original application, as filed. Therefore, no new matter has been added.

Claims 14-17 and 19 were previously allowed in this application. In addition to these claims being allowable, Applicants submits that claims 20-23 patentably define features of the X-ray mask of the present invention. Accordingly, the instant application should be in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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